THE PULSE

News of the
New England Deaconess Hospital Employees

June, 1948 | Boston, Mass. | Vol. 2, No. 9

GRADUATION — 1948

Are you dressed yet? Gracious—it's almost time to leave! Where's my cap? Can't find my cape! How exciting to be in a graduate uniform! . . . Such remarks could mean only one thing at Deaconess — the much-awaited activities associated with graduation occuring in rapid succession.

Baccalaureate. The march down the aisle of St. Mark's Church for Baccalaureate service reminded everyone of other graduations and Baccalaureates when they wondered if their turn would ever come. It is always a solemn and awesome occasion, with wonderful music and an inspiring sermon by Dr. William R. Leslie.

Graduation. On May 18, the Graduation Exercises for the class of 1948 were held at the Charles Hayden Memorial Auditorium. Dr. Shields Warren and the Honorable Charles Cabot were guest speakers, and the Glee Club sang. Prizes for scholastic and practice ability were awarded by Miss Shrader to the following: Miss Emilie Borek and Miss Anne Borek, class of 1948; Miss Jean Morrisseau, class of 1949; Miss Jean Johnson, class of 1950. Following the exercises a reception was held in the auditorium.

Formal Dance. On May 21, the class gathered at the Hotel Puritan for its formal dance. Even though it was pouring again outside, everyone had a good time dancing, admiring pretty gowns and corsages, and seeing old friends. It was a real treat to stay out until the wee small hours, and the excitement of the night before kept many weary bones in motion during duty hours the following day.

Pops. To end the round of activities was Deaconess Night at "Pops"—a hospital tradition. Dr. Cook and Mrs. Cook, with Pam and Chris, were there. Many doctors, nurses, friends of the hospital, members of administration—in fact many acquaintances from all departments

were in the audience to hear one of the best programs in years. And so ended graduation—with many goodbyes and the hope that all would meet again soon.

. . . The hospital extends its congratulations to the graduating class, thanks them for their help and cooperation during the past three years, and hopes it will be seeing many of them often.

MARGARET BRAUER HONORED FOR WAR SERVICE

On May 29 at the Norwegian Consulate in New York City, Miss Margaret Brauer, X-Ray Technician, was presented with a diploma for recognition of services for Norway during the last war. The citation was personally signed by King Haakon VII. Peggy earned this high honor for her work with Norwegian Seamen. She helped run a recreation center for them in East Boston, besides doing other work which she is still not at liberty to discuss. Congratulations, Peggy!

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

NEDH will be well represented at the AMA convention in Chicago June 21-25. Dr. Leland S. McKittrick is one of the two state delegates. Many of our staff doctors will be in attendance, and the following will take an active part in the meetings (some several times):

Frank N. Allan
C. Cabell Bailey
Henry K. Beecher
Richard B. Cattell
John B. Dynes
Earl E. Ewert
Clifford C. Franseen
Hugh F. Hare
Sara M. Jordan
Allen P. Joslin
Elliott P. Joslin
Everett D. Kiefer
Leland S. McKittrick
Alexander Marble
Joe V. Meigs
William A. Meissner
William J. Mixter
Francis D. Moore
Richard H. Overholt
James L. Poppen
Howard F. Root
Leroy A. Schall
Neil W. Swinton
Shields Warren
Priscilla White

CONSTRUCTION HOLE BUILDING DIVISION

We're not trying to strike oil, and we're not drilling for gas—but we are drilling 30 to 40 feet down to determine the consistency of the earth and the type of soil for chemical analysis. Holes are being dug to locate bedrock in various places where construction may be started. This information is needed in order to put down the proper foundation for our new buildings.

The architect's final plans are now being estimated and we have every expectation that a definite decision about erecting a new building and the proposed additions will be made before the end of the month. The plans are modern, efficient, and attractive — so keep your fingers crossed for a favorable decision.

HOSPITAL DEPARTMENTS RECORD ROOMS NUMBER FIVE OF A SERIES

Record Rooms form a special phase of hospital life. The variety in the work of the Record Rooms makes the jobs extremely interesting. The manifold diseases which are written up in detail by the various members of the staff; the progress of the patients; the operations that are described step by step; and the graphically delineated anesthesia charts, which denote the patients' reactions during the course of the operations, are all compiled in the Record Rooms daily.

Sometimes it may be necessary to pull some six hundred cases for study of gastric ulcers, thyroids, cancers, or what-have-you. These records may be brought out of hiding four different times by four different doctors in a period of two years or more. The pulling of these records may be physical effort of no mean proportions, but there accompanies these Herculean efforts a knowledge that this sometimes-reluctant extracting of records from the files may be of help in the scientific study of future cases. New methods of future care may help to bring about a quicker recovery from the maladies which burden the lives of so many people.

The unlimited opportunity to increase one's vocabulary challenges the mind of the Record Room worker. Just to keep abreast of what's new in medication, in types of surgery, and in methods of treatment keeps one constantly on the alert. Oftentimes the

days are immeasurably brightened by the strange conception of what a doctor has said over the Ediphones. A newcomer's interpretation of his words of wisdom, when typed out in detail, give forth some very strange and ludicrous phraseology, which may elicit peals of laughter from the more seasoned workers and great rumbles of amusement from the doctors who find that they have unconsciously confused the sexes and their related diseases.

These records may lack the element of suspense and romance that one finds in the ARABIAN NIGHTS or in a mystery thriller by E. Stanley Gardiner, but they can be an absorbing study in the treatment of the ills of mankind. Certainly the days spent in a Record Room are never dull or lacking in variety.

ELLA NEEDHAM, R.R.L.

CANCER DETECTION CLINIC

On May 10 a milestone in our history was passed — for the first Cancer Detection Clinic was held. There were two pilot clinics during May and two in June preparatory to the regular schedule which begins in September. None will be held in July and August during the vacation period. Dr. Clifford C. Franseen is in charge of the actual clinics with an advisory council of Dr. Shields Warren and Dr. Leland S. McKittrick. The clinic will be open to any well person without definite symptoms. The maximum fee per patient is $25, which may be scaled down if the patient's circumstances indicate that it is necessary to do so.

SUGGESTIONS

An award of $5 was made to Mrs. Mary Hackworth, hostess at the ward entrance of Deaconess II, for her suggestion to make that entrance more attractive. She suggested that it be made into a reception room with flowers, magazine racks, and additional chairs. These improvements are being carried out and the corridor is already less austere.

Keep the suggestions coming!

MR. MORRILL ACCEPTS NEW POSITION

On June 7, Mr. Clarence A. Morrill, Field Secretary, became Assistant Administrator of The Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn, New York. Although we regret to see Mr. Morrill go, we are glad that so fine an honor has come to him. He will study hospital administration at Columbia University and be trained for the position of Administrator.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR RELATIONS MAY 11, 1948

Mr. Robinson, Chairman of the Employees' Fund Committee, reported that only about six departments had been approached officially but that 122 employees had so far signed up. He was quite pleased with the enthusiastic reception of the plan. Mr. Lowry will arrange for the remaining departments to hear about the plan before the next meeting.

Representatives reported a "very luke warm" interest in having a card party at this time. The motion was made and carried that plans for such an affair be tabled until the Fall.

It was voted to have a picnic for employees on a Saturday during the early part of June at Riverside. Each employee will be allowed to bring one guest. The committee, named, headed by John Rosa (representative from Surgery), includes Katherine Grady and Margaret Kerrigan.

In the absence of Miss Shirley, Record Rooms representative, the secretary read a suggestion from the Record Rooms asking that no one write in ink on the patients' cards on the floors since it is difficult to make corrections unless pencil is used.

BOWLING BLOW-OUT

On May 17, about 50 happy bowling fiends gathered at Blinstrub's Village in South Boston for dinner (steak or lobster) and dancing to wind up the year's bowling activities. Each bowler had been contributing 25c per week all winter in anticipation of this ban-

quet, and enjoyed himself to the limit. There will be no more hospital bowling until Fall, giving everyone time to gather his strength for the next season.

THE INTERNATIONAL METHODIST CONFERENCE

Inadvertently the name of Miss Muriel H. Lund was left out of the account in last month's paper about the Methodist Conference held between April 28 and May 8. Miss Lund not only worked eight hours a day, but she put in many more hours on a volunteer basis.

The report of the work of our First Aid Station is very interesting. An average of 49 people were treated daily for numerous types of cases—from a shoulder and upper arm fracture to a headache. Dr. Brownlee held a clinic every morning, with at least ten appointments each day.

People from 35 states from Maine to the state of Washington and from Arizona to Florida were treated at the station. Twelve foreign countries were represented with delegates from the Scandinavian countries, South America, China, India, Africa, the Philippines, and England.

Many miscellaneous services were rendered by the station—from finding baby sitters to planning historical tours. One afternoon a lady asked if she could leave a note for her husband. She wanted to stay for the evening meeting and wanted him to put the cat out and feed the dog!

NEW REPORTERS

We welcome the following people to our staff: Miss Dorothy Hickie replacing Miss Betty Downey, Social Service; Mrs. Helen R. Quinn replacing Mrs. Hazel Gormley, Housekeeping; and ? ? ? ? replacing Nona Belle Green, Dietary.

FOUND

A 10-year service pin in Palmer. Owner may claim in the Personnel Office.

PROPAGANDA

Assoc. Ed. Charlie Schraub recently received a pat-on-the-back letter from Miss Erdine A. Petrie, former Nursing Supervisor here—now supervisor of the Central Supply Department of the Memorial Hospital in Worcester. Miss Petrie says she enjoys THE PULSE very much, and sends her copy to Janice Marshall (former Deaconess nurse now in charge of one of the floors, at WMH), then to the Personnel Director, and finally to the Superintendent of the Hospital . . . We like letters like that.

REMEMBER THAT . . .

The Patient's Library on Palmer 6 serves hospital personnel also. Please see Mrs. Paine or one of the Book-Wagon assistants if you wish to be a registered borrower. Some of the new books (both fiction and non-fiction) acquired recently are:

Bishop's Mantle, A. S. Turnbull

Flying Minutemen: story of the Civil Air Patrol, R. E. Neprud

Great Blizzard, A. E. Idell

House Divided, Ben Ames Williams

Invitation to Boston, A. C. Lyons

Meet the Electron, David Grims

Pilgrims Inn, Elizabeth Goudge

Prophet in the Wilderness, (Biography of Albert Schweitzer), Herman Hagedorn

Reluctant Rebel, F. F. Van de Water

The Strong Room, J. Wheelwright

The Wild Flag, (on World Federation), E. B. White

GLAD TO SEE YOU

These full-time, permanent employees began work here in May:

Admitting	*Laundry*
Louise Rossi	Rose Rivera
Blood Bank	*Nursing*
Margaret Mulvehill	Edith Wetterlow
Dietary	Sylvia Casey
Marjorie LeBeau	Leila Correll
Anna Mullen	Anne Riley
Frances Brown	Barbara Kelley
Augusta Evans	Ethel Silva
Housekeeping	*X-Ray*
Josephine Preston	Mildred Jefferson

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Cook attended the American Hospital Association Institute on Public Relations at Westminister Choir

College in Princeton from May 31 to June 4, and reported a very worthwhile time, although the meetings kept him so busy he had very little time for golf.

It was good to see Dottie Bailey Welborn, former cashier, the other day. Dottie and her wee daughter Susan came North from Louisiana for a visit.

On May 29 Marjorie Davis, former office float, was married to Dr. Rafael Rodriguez, formerly on the Joslin staff. Dr. Rodriguez has a hospital appointment in Mexico City, and they will be moving down there in July.

BLOOD BANK

We were sorry to lose one of our technicians last month. Viola Kusner has accepted a position with American Airlines as a Stewardess. Lots of luck, Vi—we hope you will be very happy up in the clouds.

We wish to take this opportunity to formally introduce Margaret Mulvehill. She came to us May 24 as a technician, and we hope she will like it here.

It is nice to have Beverly Nelson back with us for summer relief.

HOUSEKEEPING

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. John E. Gallagher on the birth of a daughter, Friday, June 4.

A bowling team is being organized in our department with Mr. Emery as Captain.

Mrs. Josephine Preston has joined the Housekeeping Staff as secretary—we hope she stays with us a long time.

Steve Rallis is convalescing after an operation. Our best wishes to him.

MAINTENANCE

May 24-28 found Mr. Sabine attending an American Hospital Association Institute on Operating Engineers at the Knickerbocker Hotel in Chicago.

NURSING

Miss Shrader, Miss Hankinson, and Miss Preston have been in Chicago as delegates to the biennial convention of the combined American Nurses Association, National League of Nursing and the National Organization of Public Health Nursing which was held from May 31 to June 4. Miss Shrader was able to visit the Cook County Hospital nurses' home, Presbyterian Hospital and Wesley Memorial Hospitals while she was in Chicago. Miss Hankinson and Miss Preston went on to St. Louis for one week to see Miss Hankinson's sister, also a Deaconess graduate.

PATHOLOGY

The weather certainly wasn't on our side. (Whose side is it on?) After postponing the picnic for which elaborate plans had been made, the second engagement was salvaged by a most generous invitation from Dr. and Mrs. Meissner to use their yard and house for the festivities. The yard was a bit on the damp side, so the house was doubly appreciated. Appetites were not dampened by the weather and we shall be eternally grateful to the Meissners for a most pleasant time.

We are glad to welcome Miss Witham back on the job, and hope it will not be long before she is feeling up to par.

Two farewells: Mrs. Thelma Ahearn has left her spot at Bacty Lab to take up domesticity in earnest. Delle Hopkins hopes to go back to studying this Fall. She plans to take an interim job. Our best wishes for the future to both girls. We enjoyed them while they were here and certainly miss them now that they have left us.

Dr. Sommers, wife, and dog are vacationing in Indiana.

PHARMACY

The Pharmacy Department welcomes its newest addition, Mrs. Frances Dycus, who is employed in the Apothecary as registered pharmacist.

Mrs. Virginia Kinter, formerly of the Pharmacy Office, is back with us for the summer.

PURCHASING

Miss Katherine O'Leary has just returned from a plane trip to Ireland—whizz-bang, all in a week. It is Kay's contention that Ireland is a very fine, rustic, and scenic country, but give her Boston every time.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Fred E. McCusty on the birth of a daughter.

At the time we go to press, John Keefe is in Deaconess for observation. We're keeping our fingers crossed for you, John.

SOCIAL SERVICE

We were sorry to have Mrs. Zelda Futterman, Medical Social Worker, and her secretary, Betty Downey, leave the first part of June. Dr. Futterman, who has been a frequent visitor here to observe diabetic procedures and lectures, has an appointment at the Cincinnati General Hospital. After a short vacation at their home in Baltimore, Perry and Zelda will go to Cincinnati. Betty will be at her home in New York State, and is looking forward to lots of swimming in the St. Lawrence River. Mrs. Jameson had a farewell dinner in honor of Betty and Zelda at her home in Saugus. Both were presented with pieces of luggage.

Our department is indeed grateful to Miss Hickie, our Spanish-speaking secretary, who has been invaluable in providing the necessary link of interpretation for some of our patients.

The first Friday in June the Social Service and Library Department, together with Miss Lund and Miss Chamberlain, gathered for a housewarming at the newly acquired, spacious home of Mrs. Beryl Paine in Jamaica Plain. After a conducted tour of the house delicious refreshments were served. Evelyn Wilson proved herself a remarkable construction engineer in erecting leaning towers, pagodas etc. Mrs. Philip E. Jameson, who on vacation, came all the way from Saugus to participate in this party. This marked her last journey on MTA services for she now courageously drives her brand new Chrysler through the heavy traffic of Lynn and Boston and through rain and sun alike.

SOLUTION ROOM

Marjorie Clinch was married on May 1 to Mr. Harry K. Whitman at the chapel of the Mt. Vernon Church. On their wedding trip they visited Virginia, Washington, and New York City.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editors

ELLEN ADAMS MARY PARKINS

Associate Editors

VERA FOGG CHARLES SCHRAUB

Administration ..... CATHERINE GALVIN
Admitting ..... JOSEPHINE MAGLIOCCA
Blood Bank ..... RUTH NEWTON
Chemistry Lab. ..... CONSTANCE SELLMAN
Dietary ..... ?
Engineering ..... HERBERT ROBINSON
Hostesses ..... ESTHER PRINCE
Housekeeping ..... HELEN QUINN
Laundry ..... RITA DENNEHY
Nursing ..... DOROTHY OGREAN
Pathology Lab. ..... KATHERINE HALEY
Pharmacy ..... JOHN KARMAN
Purchasing ..... JOHN KEEFE
Record Rooms ..... KATHERINE SHIRLEY
Social Service ..... DOROTHY HICKIE
Solution Room ..... DOROTHY BLANCHARD
Volunteer Service ..... PAMELA WHITNEY
X-Ray ..... ELEANORE JACOBS